

Board Meeting Coventry Fire, Anthony District

Tuesday January 29, 2013

Meeting called to order at 7:00 P.M.

Board members in attendance Gary Cote-chair, Shirley Matthews co-chair, Jim Beckman, Peter Pankowicz, and Louis Cote. Also in attendance Chief Labbadia, and Deputy Chief Robert Warren

AGENDA:

1) Emergency evacuation procedures.

2) Roll call.

3) Approval of minutes from the meeting held on January 9, 2013. Louis Cote made a motion to accept the minutes and seconded by Peter Pankowicz. All in favor. Motion carries.

4) Chair report. Gary Cote reads the tax office report prepared by Jeanne Lukowicz, tax collector. Taxes collected to date \$487,434.03. Interest collected to date \$15,812.31. Total collected is \$503,246.34. We have collected \$110,410.19 of back taxes. The tax sale is scheduled for March 8, 2013. Louis Cote made a motion to accept the tax office report, seconded by Jim Beckman. All in favor. Motion carries.

Gary Cote reads an e-mail sent to the Board from Tom Lacolle, treasurer. The e-mail reads as follows. Overtime was high again this pay period and \$44,606.00 out of the \$130,000.00 budgeted has been used leaving only \$85,394.00 available. At this rate the overtime budget will be used up by June. Payroll still included two employees who were not budgeted so those budget line items will be over. The VFIS invoices have been presented and the first installments have been made. Tax collections have been good and there will be enough cash flow to make the \$60,850.00 ladder truck payment in February while maintaining enough money for payroll without having to borrow on the line of credit again.

Gary Cote, Jim Beckman and Chief Labbadia met with Arthur Capaldi, legal counsel for the district, to discuss the proposal for the new contract with the Union. The new proposal has already been approved by the Union and they are waiting for the Board to vote. Gary Cote said that he would ask for approval of the contract at the end of the meeting. Gary Cote asked if any board members had any questions. Jim Beckman asked if line 9 had been changed and Gary Cote said yes it had been changed.

Gary Cote asked for approval from the board to sign the new contract. Louis Cote made a motion to accept the new contract, seconded by Peter Pankowicz. All in favor. Motion carries.

Chief Labbadia stated that there are two pending retirements. Gary Cote and the Chief said they would use the retainer for Arthur Capaldi and have someone from Arthur's office to get in touch and keep on top of the retirement board. The Chief stated over the past 8 months he has received many different answers and always gets a different person and no one seems to have an answer. The Chief has spoken to the retirement board and they told him they were going to get right on it, and he hasn't heard anything in three weeks. Gary Cote plans to inform the two employees involved for next month's

meeting and let them decide if they want their cases heard in open or executive session. This situation must be resolved. The Chief said he would send the bill for Arthur Capaldi to the retirement board. The Chief mentioned that there have been a lot of changes to the rules for retirement and some people are waiting for years. You need three different opinions from three different doctors but they can't work for the same group. Then it has to go before a sub-committee and then to the full committee. Gary Cote mentioned that he and the Chief would get together with Arthur Capaldi's office and have one of Arthur's employees push to get the answers from the retirement board. Gary Cote said that the employee has no incentive to push the retirement board for an answer because they are still getting a weekly paycheck.

PUBLIC COMMENT: none

Louis Cote made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Peter Pankowicz. All in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted

Mary Perry